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BOROUGH OF



GRAVESEND

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE YEAR 1952

H. S. DAVIES,
M.D., B.S. (LOND.), M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1952.

THE MAYOR (Alderman A. G. RAMSAY, J.P.)

Councillor C. A. WHITE (Chairman)

Councillor H. F. MARGRETT (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman H. N. FLETCHER, J.P.

Alderman T. G. A. HUMPHREY

Alderman H. DAVIDSON

Councillor Miss A. E. H. JOHNSON, B.E.M.

Councillor L. P. SMITH

Councillor D. M. GILBEY

Councillor MRS. M. O. CREESE

Councillor T. SCOTT LUCAS

Councillor I. MORRIS

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

HERBERT S. DAVIES, M.D., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

DANIEL DESMOND, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.(Cork),
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

*J. E. BAKER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Chief Sanitary Inspector.

*F. H. MILLICAN, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector

District Sanitary Inspectors :

*J. H. LOTT, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

*D. G. BANKS, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.

*K. G. C. BURT, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

Clerical Staff :

MRS. E. MARTIN, Secretary to Medical Officer.

A. H. BAKER, Chief Clerk to Sanitary Inspector

MISS G. PUTTIFER.

MISS P. SPENCER.

MISS V. NEAVES (appointed January, 1952).

NOTE.—*Hold Meat and Food Inspection Certificate.

September, 1953.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the public health in Gravesend for the year ended 31st December, 1952.

On the whole, the health of the town has been satisfactory. The Registrar General estimates the mid-year population as 45,260, an increase of nearly 1,000 over the previous year.

Although the birth rate has declined since the peak years 1946 and 1947, following in general the trend of the birth rate for England and Wales, 1952 shows an increase. The number of live births to residents was 767, an increase of 65, and the crude birth rate per 1,000 population was 16.95. The corrected birth rate, however—calculated by applying the comparability factor of 1.03 which makes allowance for age and sex constitution of the population—is 17.46. This compares with 15.3 which represents the rate for England and Wales.

Deaths from all causes numbered 469 compared with 488 in 1951, giving a crude death rate of 10.36 per 1,000 population and a corrected death rate of 10.77. The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 11.3.

Twenty-two children did not reach their first birthday and of these, 12 died before they were a week old. There were 25 still births. The infant mortality rate was 28.68 compared with 27.6 for England and Wales. I am glad to report that we recorded no deaths from causes associated with pregnancy or childbirth. Twenty-one deaths occurred from accidental causes and this includes 8 fatal accidents due to motor vehicles. The corresponding figures for 1951 were 9 and 3 respectively.

The incidence of infectious disease has been low and no serious epidemic has occurred. We have had no diphtheria since 1947 but this happy state of affairs is not likely to continue unless resistance to diphtheria continues to be maintained at a high level by immunisation. Health Visitors and Doctors are unremitting in their work of education in the homes of the people and at the various clinics but it remains the duty of parents to take advantage of the facilities provided for the prevention of this serious disease.

Throughout the year special attention has been paid to the various premises concerned with the production and sale of food. There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning.

The visit of the Mass Radiography Unit to the district from the 8th January to the 24th March, 1952, marks a most important advance in the prevention and earlier treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, and 13,960 people were x-rayed. This figure includes residents from adjoining areas. Active tuberculosis was discovered in 36 persons.

Rehousing still remains the great problem in public health work and, as in past years, the Council have continued to give priority to this urgent matter. During 1952 the Corporation completed 164 houses and 44 flats. In addition 53 houses and 6 bungalows were built by private enterprise.

In Gravesend as elsewhere there remains a serious shortage of hospital accommodation for old people and the chronic sick and it often happens that a Medical Officer of Health is requested to visit a patient and expedite admission to an institution. My experience has been that however great the difficulties the hospital authorities have never failed to find a bed promptly for a patient in urgent need. For this service I am grateful.

In conclusion, may I express to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee my appreciation for their continued interest and support throughout the year. I wish also to thank my staff for their loyal co-operation.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. S. DAVIES,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

SECTION "A."

Area of the Borough (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	4,619
Registrar-General's estimate of the Population	...	...	...	...	...	45,260
Number of separate inhabited houses estimated (at 31.3.53)	...	...	...	...	...	12,144
Rateable Value (at 31.3.53)	...	...	...	...	...	£363,653
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (actual 31.3.53)	...	...	...	...	...	£1,458
Rates (to 31st March, 1953)—22s. 8d. in the £.						
Number of Dwelling Houses built during 1952—						
	Corporation	...	...	Houses		164
				Flats		44
	Private Enterprise			Houses		53
				Bungalows		6
				Total		267

Industries and Employment

The chief industries in the locality are—Paper making, printing, light and marine engineering, cement. A number of men are employed in the Merchant Navy, on river craft, and in dock work.

Unemployment has remained at a low level, less than 2% of the insured population, but statistics which apply only to the Borough are not available.

Registered Live Births.

					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	388	358	746
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	10	11	21
Total live births	...	...	...	...	398	369	767

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population—16.95.

Still Births.

					<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	9	13	22
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Total still births	...	...	...	...	10	15	25

Still Birth Rate—i.e., Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—31.56.

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ... 0.55.

Registered Deaths (all causes).

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	255	214	469
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population—10.36.			
(The previous year it was 11.02).			

Deaths from Puerperal Causes. Nil.

Natural Increase in Population (Excess of Births over Deaths) — 298

Infant Deaths—under 1 year of age.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate infants	15	6	21
Illegitimate infants	—	1	1
Total ...	15	7	22

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

Infant Mortality Rate, <i>i.e.</i> , All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	28.68
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	28.15
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	47.62

Comparative Birth and Death Rates.

<i>Rates.</i>	<i>Gravesend.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>	<i>148 "Smaller Towns," Population of 25,000 to 50,000</i>
Birth Rate	17.46	15.3	15.5
Death Rate	10.77	11.3	11.2
Infant Mortality Rate...	28.68	27.6	25.8
Still Birth Rate ...	0.55	0.35	0.36

BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR LAST TEN YEARS.

YEAR		1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Number of births	...	...	730	725	761	1025	1029	830	751	760	767
Crude Birth rate (per 1,000 population)...		20.7	20.6	21.0	25.4	24.7	19.35	17.36	17.16	15.85	16.95
Number of deaths	...	...	434	435	430	437	438	461	456	483	469
Crude Death rate(per 1,000 population)...		12.3	12.4	11.9	10.83	10.52	10.75	10.54	10.91	11.02	10.36

Causes of Death in Gravesend for 1952
as provided by the Registrar General

				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	...	...	7	4	11
2.	Tuberculosis, Other forms	...	...	—	1	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	1	2
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	—	1	1
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	1	3	4
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	4	6	10
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	20	1	21
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	10	10
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	3	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	31	17	48
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	3	1	4
16.	Diabetes	...	...	1	2	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	38	45	83
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	23	18	41
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	5	5	10
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	36	47	83
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	8	2	10
22.	Influenza	...	...	1	1	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	10	5	15
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	13	7	20
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	1	1	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	4	—	4
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	—	2	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	2	1	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	3	—	3
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	2	1	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	19	24	43
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	6	2	8
34.	All other accidents	...	...	11	2	13
35.	Suicide	...	...	5	1	6
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	—	—	—
Total—All causes				255	214	469

BOROUGH OF GRAVESEND

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Total		Under 1 week		Under 1 month		1 and under 3 months		3 and under 6 months		6 and under 9 months		9 and under 12 months	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Prematurity	...	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broncho-Pneumonia...	...	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	...	1	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes	...	6	3	3	2	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	15	7	9	3	2	—	2	3	1	—	1	1	—
		22		12		2		5		1		2		—

**Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and
Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1952.
Provisional Figures Based on Quarterly Returns**

			England and Wales	160 County Great Towns (including London).	160 Smaller Towns (Resi- dent Pop. 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Admini- strative County Gravesend	
<i>Rates per 1,000 Home Population</i>							
Births							
Live Births	...	...	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6	17.46
Still Births	...	...	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34	0.55
			22.6 (a)	24.6 (a)	23.0 (a)	19.2 (a)	31.56(a)
Deaths							
All Causes	...	...	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6	10.77
Typhoid and paratyphoid	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.02
Whooping Cough	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
Diphtheria	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31	0.27
Influenza	...	...	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.04
Smallpox	...	...	0.00	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)	...	...	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	—
Pneumonia	...	...	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58	0.34
Notifications (Corrected)							
Typhoid Fever	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.02
Meningococcal infection	...	...	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56	0.64
Whooping Cough	...	...	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66	2.65
Diphtheria	...	...	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	—
Erysipelas	...	...	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14	0.26
Smallpox	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Measles ...	...	...	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23	2.72
Pneumonia	...	...	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57	0.53
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)							
Paralytic	...	...	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.02
Non-paralytic	...	...	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	—
Food poisoning	...	...	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18	0.02
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	17.87 (a)	23.94 (a)	10.22 (a)	30.77 (a)	5.05(a)
<i>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</i>							
Deaths							
All causes under 1 year of age			27.6(b)	31.2	25.8	23.8	28.68
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...	...	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7	1.30
Note :—(a)			Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births				
(b)			Per 1,000 related live births.				

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1952.

DISEASE.	Under one year										Total				Number removed to Hospital
	3 yrs.	5 yrs.	10 yrs.	15 yrs.	25 yrs.	45 yrs.	65 yrs.	and under	and under	and under					
Measles ...	14	17	85	3	—	1	—	—	—	123	1				
Whooping Cough ...	27	31	52	1	—	1	1	—	—	120	—				
Scarlet Fever ...	1	6	20	1	—	1	—	—	—	29	1				
Pneumonia ...	1	1	4	—	2	4	6	6	6	24	3				
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	1	4	6	6	1	12	—				
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	4	3				
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1				
Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1				
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—				
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1				
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	2	5	3	4	19	24	17	3	3	77	45				
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	2				
Total	10	45	164	10	27	37	32	10	396	58					

SECTION " B."

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Medical Practitioners.

There are 16 doctors residing in the area who are engaged in general practice

2. Laboratory Facilities.

The following specimens were submitted to the Kent County Laboratory, Maidstone, for examination :—

A.

(1)	Sputum— Examination for Tubercle Bacilli	...	...	3
(2)	Swabs— Examination for Streptococci	...	...	1
(3)	Faeces— Examination for Pathogenic Organisms	...	...	23
(4)	Duck Eggs—Examination for Pathogenic Organisms	...	...	1
TOTAL				28

B.

(1)	Milk— Bacteriological Examination	...	...	43
(2)	Water— Public supplies Bacteriological Examination	...	...	50
	Swimming Pool— „	„	...	32
(3)	Ice Cream— Bacteriological Examination	...	...	86
TOTAL				211

3. County Ambulance Service

Six ambulances are stationed at the Harden V.C. Memorial Hall, Hall Road, Northfleet. Telephone—Gravesend 5257/8

4. Nursing in the Home.

This service is to provide nurses, free of charge, for persons who require nursing in their own homes. Apart from cases of emergency and accidents, patients can only be attended by a nurse on the production of a certificate from their private medical practitioner. At present it is not possible to provide a night service. Application is made to the District Officer, District Office, Arthur Street, or to the Nurses direct. The District Officer's telephone number is Gravesend 166

There are four female nurses and one male nurse employed in this area and their names and addresses are given below :—

	<i>Telephone No.</i>
Sister Jones, 56, Smarts Road, Gravesend.	Gravesend 4700
Nurse Rampling, Church Cottage, London Road, Greenhithe.	Greenhithe 197
Nurse Cake, 64 Portland Avenue, Gravesend.	Gravesend 4463
Nurse Morris, 9, Whitehill Road, Gravesend.	Gravesend 5980
Mr. J. F. Towell, "Acacia", Gorseway, Hartley, Nr. Dartford,	Longfield 3313

The following services are provided by the County Council—

5. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

- (1) Ante-natal Clinics.
- (2) Infant Welfare Clinics.
- (3) Women's Welfare Clinics.
- (4) Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics.
- (5) Dental Clinics.
- (6) Speech Therapy Clinics.

6. Midwifery Service.

There are six County Midwives serving the Gravesend area.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Telephone No.</i>
1. Miss L. M. Larnier,	31, York Road, Gravesend.	Gravesend 4111
2. Miss M. Nash,	77, Dickens Road, Gravesend.	„ 4166
3. Mrs. R. Peacock,	13, Joy Road, Gravesend.	„ 4084
4. Miss M. B. Pickering,	“Rosabel,” Forge Lane, Chalk.	„ 1795
5. Mrs. K. M. Polson,	15, Taunton Vale, Gravesend.	„ 4707
6. Miss L. M. Mills,	85, Whitehill Road, Gravesend.	„ 2980

7. Domestic Help Service.

This is a County Service giving domestic help to old people, maternity patients and persons suffering from illness, and other cases of emergency. Application is made to the District Office, Arthur Street, Telephone No.—Gravesend 166.

Chest Clinic.

The Chest Clinic is held at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital every Wednesday at 9 a.m.

Venereal Diseases Clinic.

Dr. C. D. Routh is in attendance at the Gravesend Clinic 22, Cobham Street, at the following times :—

	<i>Tuesday</i>
Male	10.30 a.m. to 12.55 p.m.
Female	12.55 p.m. to 2.0 p.m.

	<i>Saturday</i>
Male and Female	9.0 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

Gravesend and North Kent Hospital.

The Out-patient Clinics of the Hospital are as follows :—

MONDAY

9.30 a.m.	Medical Out-patients	Dr. J. Craig
9.15 a.m.	Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic	Mr. Golding-Wood
1.30 p.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic (K.E.C.)	Dr. M. F. McDonnell
2.0 p.m.	Fracture Clinic	Mr. V. M. Franklin (By Appointment)

TUESDAY

9.0 a.m.	Dental Clinic	Mr. F. T. Wilkinson
9.30 a.m.	Skin Clinic	Dr. Cairns
9.30 a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic (K.E.C.)	Mr. G. L. Simmons
11.30 a.m.	Surgical Clinic	Mr. M. Landau
2.0 p.m.	Medical Out-patients	Dr. Moir
3.0 p.m.	Ante-Natal Clinic	Mr. F. S. Horrocks
3.0 p.m.	Gynaecological Clinic	Mr. A. M. Hunter

WEDNESDAY

9.0 a.m.	Chest Clinic	Dr. H. C. Calvey
9.30 a.m.	Surgical Clinic	Mr. B. E. C. Stanley (By Appointment)
2.30 p.m.	Physiotherapy	Mr. V. M. Franklin (By appointment)
2.30 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic (Old Cases)	Dr. S. W. Hardwick
3.30 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. S. W. Hardwick (By appointment)

THURSDAY

9.30 a.m.	Orthopaedic Clinic	Mr. V. M. Franklin (By Appointment)
9.30 a.m.	Chest Clinic (Refills)	Dr. H. C. Calvey
9.30 a.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic	Mr. W. E. Heath
1.30 p.m.	Ophthalmic Clinic (K.E.C.)	Mr. G. L. Simmons

FRIDAY

9.30 a.m.	Medical Out-patients	Dr. J. Craig
9.30 a.m.	Dental Clinic	Mr. F. T. Wilkinson
10.15 a.m.	Fracture Clinic	Mr. V. M. Franklin (By Appointment)
2.30 p.m.	Surgical Clinic	Mr. Sol. M. Cohen (By Appointment)
2.30 p.m.	Psychiatric Clinic	Dr. J. J. Pearse (By appointment)

SATURDAY

10.30 a.m.	Medical Out-patients	Dr. J. Craig (By Appointment)
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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the administrative arrangements for the Maternity and Child Welfare Services passed from the Borough Council to the Kent County Council.

Notification of Births.

Notifications of births are now sent direct to the County Medical Officer at Maidstone.

The number of live and still births occurring in Gravesend during the year was 767. After correction for those whose usual residence is elsewhere (*i.e.*, 132 transferred "Out" and 157 transferred "In") the number properly belonging to the Borough was 792 (767 live births and 25 still births) compared with 711 in the previous year.

Particulars of Births occurring in Gravesend

Total No. of live and still births occurring in Gravesend	...	767
No. of live births actually belonging to Gravesend	...	619
No. of still births " " " "	...	16
No. of live births (non-residents) 	...	127
No. of still births " " 	...	5
	—	767

No. of Births occurring in Institutions in Gravesend

		<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>
No. of infants born in Hospital—	(residents) ...	286	13
" " " " " "	(non-residents) ...	110	5
No. of infants born in Nursing Home—	(residents) ...	52	—
" " " " " "	(non-residents) ...	13	—

Health Visitors.

Nurses with special qualifications are appointed for the purpose of giving advice as to the care of young children, persons suffering from illness and expectant and nursing mothers and as to the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

The following Health Visitors are employed in the Gravesend area and can be contacted at their respective welfare centres:—

Miss M. Carter, S.R.N., S.C.M.	Windmill Street Welfare Centre.
Miss C. James, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Appointed Jan. 1952)	" " " "
Mrs. E. Curling, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Resigned May, 1953)	"The Nest" Welfare Centre Denton
Miss M. White, S.R.N., S.C.M.	Whitehill Welfare Centre.
Miss M. Lewis, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Appointed Jan. 1952) (Resigned Feb. 1953)	" " "

Premature Infants.

Premature infants nursed at home are visited regularly by the Midwives and Health Visitors.

The following special equipment is available for loan at the welfare centres :—

Draught-proof cot with detachable lining, suitable warm clothing, hot water bottles, special feeding bottles, thermometer, mucus catheter, baby scales, etc.

Day Nurseries.

The "Daneholme" Day Nursery, Pelham Road, Gravesend, provided accommodation for the daily care of children under five years of age in cases of special need.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

The three Welfare Centres in the Borough are Windmill Street (Central), Whitehill (King's Farm Estate), and "The Nest" (Denton and Chalk district). The sessions are as follows :—

	<i>Windmill Street</i>	<i>Whitehill</i>	<i>"The Nest"</i>
	<i>Afternoon.</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>	<i>Afternoon.</i>
MONDAY	Child Welfare Clinic ; Health Visitors Consul- tations; Baby weighing; Sale of Foods, etc.	Child Welfare Clinic— Medical Officer in attendance ; Health Visitors Consultations ; Baby weighing ; Sale of Foods, etc.	‡Ante-Natal Clinic.
	<i>Morning</i>	—	—
	*Women's Welfare Clinic	—	—
TUESDAY	<i>Afternoon</i> Child Welfare Clinic— Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccinations	<i>Afternoon</i> Ante-Natal Clinic and Midwives' Clinic combined.	—
WEDNESDAY	<i>Afternoon</i> Midwives' Clinic.	—	<i>Afternoon</i> Child Welfare Clinic —Medical Officer in attendance; Health Visitors Consulta- tions ; Baby weigh- ing ; Sale of Foods, etc.
THURSDAY	<i>Afternoon</i> Ante-Natal Clinic	<i>Afternoon</i> Child Welfare Clinic —Medical Officer in attendance ; Health Visitors Consulta- tions ; Baby weigh- ing ; Sale of Foods, etc.	<i>Morning and Afternoon.</i> Speech Therapy Clinic.

‡First and 3rd Mondays in each month. *2nd and 3rd Tuesdays in each month

	<i>Afternoon</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
FRIDAY	Child Welfare Clinic Medical Officer in attendance ; Health Visitors Consultations; Baby weighing ; Sale of Foods, etc.	Midwives Clinic

Attendances at Child Welfare Centres.

The attendances at the three Welfare Centres during the year were :—

(a) Individual children under 1 year of age	...	...	573
(b) Individual children between 1 and 5 years	...	...	1,492
(c) Total number of attendances of all children under 5 years			13,579

For the year 1951 the figures were :—

(a) 634	(b) 1,231	(c) 12,327
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Ladies' Voluntary Committee.

The Ladies' Voluntary Committee continue to serve at the three Welfare Centres in the town and their work is greatly appreciated.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal clinics are held once a week at Windmill Street and Whitehill Welfare Centres and once a fortnight at "The Nest" Welfare Centre. A lady doctor is in attendance at each session.

In all, 351 expectant mothers attended the clinics. The total attendances were 1,085 as against 1,036 in the previous year.

Women's Welfare Clinic.

This clinic was started by the Borough Council in 1939 and is now conducted by Dr. Mallinson. It provides advice to married women suffering from gynaecological conditions, or from any form of sickness likely to render pregnancy detrimental to health.

The clinic is held at Windmill Street Welfare Centre on the second and third Tuesdays in each month at 10 a.m.

Dental Treatment.

Dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers, children under five years and school children is provided at the Dental Clinic which is situated in Manor Road. The clinic is open at the following times :—

Monday to Friday	A.M. 9.30 to 12 noon
	P.M. 1.30 to 4.0
	(Appointments arranged)
Emergency cases, toothache, etc.	A.M. 9.30 to 10.0

Ophthalmic Treatment.

The County Ophthalmic Clinic is held at the Gravesend & North Kent Hospital.

Minor Ailment Clinics—School Children.

These clinics are held at the following times :—

Windmill Street	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday	9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
“ The Nest ” Denton	Tuesday and Friday	9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Whitehill, King’s Farm	Tuesday	9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Registration and Supervision of Nursing Homes.

There are two nursing homes in the Borough.

1. A Nursing Home of fourteen beds — six for maternity cases and eight for medical cases. This is governed by Sections 187-195 of the Public Health Act, 1936. There has been a change of ownership of this home in 1952, and it has been re-registered by the Corporation. Six inspections were made during the year.
2. Home for Medical Cases, chiefly old people—ten beds. This home which had previously been registered under the above Act is now supervised by the Kent County Council under Section 37 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Arrangements made for the discovery of Unregistered Homes.

1. The Returns from the local Registrar are examined to check the addresses at which births and deaths occur.
2. Health Visitors and the staff are asked to keep a look out for unregistered homes.

Care of the Unmarried Mother and her Child.

This work is now a function of the County Council. Kendall House, Pelham Road, Gravesend, which was opened by the Rochester Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare in 1946, has an experienced Church Army Sister in charge and excellent work is being done. A representative of the Council serves on the Moral Welfare Committee and a grant was made to the Association from the funds available under the Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932.

Welfare of Old People.

The Gravesend voluntary Old People’s Welfare Committee continues to do excellent work. It is affiliated to the Kent Council of Social Service and its object is to promote and assist the general good of all old people in the Borough.

The Darby and Joan Clubs are proving very popular and the membership is steadily increasing. A further Club has now been formed at Chalk village. The activities of the Committee include the following :—Home Visiting, Meals on Wheels Service, Library Service, visits to hospitals, trolley shop, Occupational Therapy, which are all working well. A vehicle has been purchased and outings have been arranged for the elderly folk.

The 1952 “Old Peoples Week” was a great success with its most attractive programme of social events.

The latest ambition of the Gravesend Old People's Welfare Committee is to see a Residential Home for old people opened in the area. They feel that those who need constant care and attention should, if possible, be accommodated in surroundings with which they are familiar, enabling them to have more contact with their relatives and friends. This would also help to alleviate the already heavy waiting lists for hospital and Part III accommodation, and they are negotiating with the responsible authorities.

Housing Accommodation for Old People.

During the last few years the Corporation have built 124 flats, designed especially for the needs of old people. They are very much appreciated by the old folks and there is a long waiting list.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

All cases were dealt with successfully by persuasion, and it was not necessary to make use of the above legislation.

SANITARY INSPECTION, HOUSING AND FOOD.

Mr. J. E. Baker, Chief Sanitary Inspector, has supplied the statistics relating to Sanitary Inspection, Housing and Food Inspection.

SECTION "C."

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Public Drinking Supplies.

Two public water companies supply water to the Borough.

The water has been satisfactory.

(a) in quantity. (b) in quality.

The water in both supplies is hard and there is no evidence of plumbo-solvent action.

Twelve dwelling houses are supplied from public mains by means of stand pipes. The remainder of the Borough is supplied direct to houses. The twelve houses in question are scheduled for demolition procedure when the housing situation permits.

Bacteriological Examination.

Fifty samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination as follows :—

Supplied by—	<i>No. of</i>		<i>Satisfactory. Unsatisfactory.</i>	
	<i>Samples.</i>			
Gravesend & Milton Water Co.	...	36	36	..
Higham & Hundred of Hoo Co.	...	14	14	...
		—	—	—
		50	50	...
		—	—	—

Included in the foregoing are samples from the following sources :—

(a) Gravesend & Milton Water Co.'s supply :—

1. 12 samples of untreated water from Leith Park Road well.
2. 12 samples of treated water from outgoing main, Leith Park Road.

(b) Higham & Hundred of Hoo Co.'s Supply :

1. 1 sample of untreated water from Cuxton Well.
2. 1 sample of treated water from Cuxton Meter House.

Chemical Analysis

Samples taken for chemical analysis were as follows :—

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Gravesend & Milton Water Co's supply (1 treated and 1 untreated)	2	2	—
Higham & Hundred of Hoo Water Co's supply (1 treated and 1 untreated)	2	2	—

NOTE—Tabulated summaries of all water samples taken and results of examination are shown on pages 47—50

Corporation Bathing Pool.

The Open-air Bathing Pool opened in 1938, has accommodation for 800 bathers.

The main pool is 150 feet long by 75 feet wide and has two shallow areas and a diving pit. The diving apparatus includes the following diving boards :—1 metre fixed ; 1 metre spring ; 3 metre fixed ; 3 metre spring ; and a 5 metre fixed and a chute.

The 400,000 gallons of water in the pools are filtered, aerated, sterilised and heated.

Wide surrounds and large areas are provided for sun-bathing, whilst a spectator's terrace surrounds the site.

On the first floor of the building a Cafe and Spectators' Gallery is provided, affording a splendid view of the whole site.

There is also a Children's Paddling Pool, 50 feet by 50 feet, with its own surround, separated from the main pool by a terrace.

During the 1952 season the following persons used the Pools :—

Bathers and Spectators ...	...	...	75,502
Schools ...	...	...	18,960
Season Pass ...	...	...	8,616
Clubs ...	...	...	3,412
H.M. Forces ...	...	...	2,703
			109,193

Hygienic Arrangements.

The Medical Officer of Health has continued to keep the hygienic arrangements at the Pool under supervision. " Breakpoint Chlorination," which was put into operation in 1948 appears to be working efficiently.

Bacteriological Examination of Water.

Thirty-two examinations were made. See tabulated summary on pages 51 and 52

Slipper Baths.

The Slipper Baths at the Corporation Bathing Pool were opened on the 31st January, 1949.

There are separate sections for males and females—7 baths being allocated to males and 3 to females.

This service is working very satisfactorily and is much appreciated by the residents of the town. The attendances for the year 1952 are as follows :—

Males	—	12,279
Females	—	3,577
		15,856

ADMINISTRATION OF FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The Council has the duty to enforce certain provisions of Parts I, IV and VIII of the Factories Act, 1937.

Administrative arrangements include the following :—

Part I—Health (General Provisions).

- (1) Registration of all factories.
- (2) Inspection of sanitary conveniences in all factories.
- (3) Inspection with regard to cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage of floors in all factories in which mechanical power is not used.

Part IV—Basement Bakehouses.

- (1) The quinquennial examination of basement bakehouses and the renewal or cancellation of Certificates of Suitability.

Part VIII—Homework.

- (1) Examination of lists, supplied to the Council by employers of outworkers in certain specified trades.
- (2) Notification of name and place of employment of any home worker employed outside the Borough to the Council in whose district his employment is situated.
- (3) Inspection of premises in which the outworker pursues his occupation.

Two hundred and ninety-one inspections of factories were made during the year 1952 and the provisions of the Act, so far as they affect Local Authorities, have been enforced. The following table shows the work carried out :—

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health :—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	48	106	9	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	113	185	18	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ...	—	—	—	—
	<u>161</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>—</u>

2. Cases in which defects were found :—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	5	6	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	1	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) insufficient ...	2	3	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	20	21	—	2	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
	<u>27</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>—</u>

1.	Total number of outworkers notified to Gravesend Council 1952 (under I (c) of Sect. 110 Factories Act, 1937)	...	...	...	...	5
2.	Total number of outworkers notified by Gravesend Council to other Councils (under 2 of Sect. 110 Factories Act, 1937)	...	...	...	...	1
3.	Total number of outworkers notified to Gravesend by other Councils	...	...	...	...	4
4.	Total number of outworkers employed in Gravesend	...	...	...	...	8
5.	Total number of inspections of work places (under 111 (1) Factories Act, 1937)	...	...	...	...	10
6.	List of scheduled occupations followed by outworkers employed in premises in Gravesend:— Wearing apparel, making etc.	...	...	...	...	8

BASEMENT BAKEHOUSES Part IV. of the Act.

Certificates of Suitability are in operation in respect of five basement bakehouses and seventeen visits of inspection were made during the year. Eight notices to remedy defects or for cleansing were complied with.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS.

Dwelling houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,160
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,194
Visits to other premises:—							
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	248
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
Cooked Meat shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Dairies and milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Dining rooms and cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	234
Factories (with power)	...	...	...	...	...	...	185
Factories (without power)	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Fish frying	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	384
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	251
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Markets	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Meat Depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Provision shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	565
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Public House Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Rag flock premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,996
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Shops (Shops Act provisions)	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Tents, vans, sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,173
Total visits of all kinds	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,638

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

In respect of dwelling houses :—

	Served.	Complied with
Informal notices	659	654
Statutory notices	107	108
In respect of other premises :—		
Informal notices	161	167

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Animals in unfit state	4
Accumulations removed	19
Dustbins provided	382
Cesspools—Repaired	1
disused and filled in	3
covers provided	2
Chimney stacks—repaired	19
new pots provided	6
Coppers—New provided	1
Repaired	12
Dampness—damp-proof courses provided	5
damp wallplaster removed and re-instated	112
external walls repaired	22
external walls repointed	21
external walls rendered	26
guttering repaired or renewed	67
hopper heads provided	8
roofs repaired	139
rainwater pipes renewed or repaired	38
sub-floor ventilation provided	4
Doors and door sills repaired or renewed	21
Dirty houses cleansed by tenants	9
Disinfestation of premises—	
For vermin	9
Drainage—drains repaired	1
drains wholly relaid	1
Drains partly relaid	7
drains unstopped	37
inspection chambers provided or repaired	6
inspection chamber covers provided	6
soil and ventilation pipes, new provided	4
soil and ventilation pipes, repaired	3
gullies and/or grids provided	7
gully curbs or channels repaired or provided	20
Fireplaces renewed or repaired	20
Floors repaired or relaid	32
Hearths repaired	3

Lavatory basins repaired or renewed ...	...	...	...	...	5
Paving relaid or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	10
Rooms, passages and staircases—					
—ceilings repaired and/or cleansed and whitened ...	...	...	...	...	133
—walls repaired and/or papered or distempered ...	...	...	...	...	158
Sinks—new provided ...	...	...	...	...	15
Sink or bath waste pipes renewed or repaired...	...	...	...	...	14
Smoke nuisances abated ...	...	...	...	...	5
Soakaways cleared or provided ...	...	...	...	...	12
Stoves renewed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	25
Staircases repaired ...	...	...	...	...	88
Steps and thresholds repaired or renewed ...	...	...	...	...	13
Urinals cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	5
Wash-houses—new constructed ...	...	...	...	...	3
Water supply—water pipes, etc., repaired ...	...	...	...	...	17
Water closets—new constructed or rebuilt ...	...	...	...	...	11
repaired and/or cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	39
new pans provided ...	...	...	...	...	11
pans cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	3
unstopped ...	...	...	...	...	3
flushing cisterns provided ...	...	...	...	...	1
flushing cisterns repaired ...	...	...	...	...	34
seats renewed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	28
Windows—renewed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	53
sashcords provided ...	...	...	...	...	154
sills renewed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...	58
sash weights provided or adjusted ...	...	...	...	...	17
Other matters ...	...	...	...	...	38

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Three appeals were made by owners in respect of notices served under Sec. 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936 to provide dustbins at five premises. The appeals were upheld by the court in all cases.

In two cases no orders as to costs were made and in the other costs of £10/10/0 were awarded against the Council.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

The work of disinfestation of Council houses is carried out by the Local Authority, infested rooms being sprayed with an insecticide.

Premises belonging to private owners are also disinfested on request, and the cost of the work is charged to the persons concerned.

Particulars of action taken during 1952 :—

		<i>Council houses.</i>	<i>Other houses.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Number of houses found to be infested ...	...	12	9	21
Number of houses disinfested ...	...	12	9	21

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Shops have been kept under observation during the year, two hundred and twenty-three inspections being made.

THE RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

It is the duty of the Council to enforce the provisions of this Act which came into operation on 1st November, 1951.

These duties include the following :—

1. The inspection and registration of premises where filling materials are used in activities laid down in the Act.
2. The inspection and licensing of premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored.
3. The inspection of records to be kept under the Act.
4. Where considered necessary the taking and testing of samples of filling materials.

The Act is intended to provide a comprehensive measure for the adequate control of the manufacture and use of filling materials and to ensure that high standards of cleanliness are maintained.

The Council have appointed the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector as Authorised Officers under the Act and two premises have been registered within the district. These have been kept under supervision.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

It is the duty of the Council to enforce the provisions of this Act which came into force on 1st April, 1952.

The Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection by local authorities of pet shops, the main purpose being the enforcement of the Protection of Animals Acts in their application to the business of selling pets.

The Council have appointed the Chief Sanitary Inspector and Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector as authorised officers under the Act and 10 premises have been licensed within the district. These have been kept under supervision, 93 inspections being made.

DRAIN TESTING.

Drains at 7 premises were tested during the year, with the following results :—

					<i>No. of tests made</i>	<i>Found to be sound.</i>	<i>Found to be defective.</i>
New drains	...	...	...	...	7	6	1
Old drains	...	...	...	...	6	2	4
					13	8	5

All drains found to be defective were relaid.

CESSPOOL AND PAIL SYSTEM.

There are still approximately 650 premises in the Eastern and Southern parts of the Borough where the drainage discharges into cesspools.

The Health Department is responsible for this work but the actual emptying of cesspools is carried out on behalf of the Department by the Borough Engineer's Department, a combined road gully and cesspool emptying machine being used for the purpose.

During the year 9,215 tons of sewage were removed, requiring 816 emptyings, compared with 11,137 tons requiring 966 emptyings the previous year.

Approximately 16 pails are in use in the Borough, of these, 8 are emptied twice weekly by the Public Health Department and the remainder are dealt with by the owners or occupiers. Four pail closets were converted to water closets during the year.

HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

(a) Collection.

Nine Shelvoke & Drewry freighters, including one spare machine, are used for this service.

One of these vehicles with driver and one loader is also employed on the collection of trade refuse from large establishments, collections being made more frequently than in the case of ordinary domestic refuse, which is collected weekly.

Refuse collected during the year amounted to 12,321 tons, compared with 12,322 tons the previous year, these amounts being ascertained by test weighing.

(b) Disposal.

All refuse is disposed of by means of controlled tipping on land at Denton marshes. This land, approximately 44 acres in extent, has been used for tipping since January, 1944, and it is estimated that it will be possible to tip on this site for a further seven years.

SALVAGE.

One Shelvoke and Drewry freighter is used for the collection of food waste and an Austin truck for the collection of waste paper. Four trailers were purchased during the year. These are used with refuse collecting vehicles for the purpose of collecting waste paper.

Salvaged materials collected and sold during the year were as follows :—

<i>Materials.</i>					<i>Weight.</i>			<i>Value.</i>		
					Tons. cwt. qtrs.			£ s. d.		
Waste Paper	...	...	...	...	374	12	3	3,955	11	5
Food Waste	...	...	...	...	296	0	1	985	0	4
Metals	...	...	...	...	11	13	2	49	17	2
Textiles	...	...	...	...	2	10	0	43	12	6
					684	16	2	£5,034	1	5

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.

Disinfection of rooms and bedding, where necessary, for the prevention of infectious diseases was carried out at 128 premises.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The Health Department is responsible for the staffing and cleansing of public conveniences in the Borough and the collection of receipts therefrom.

One underground convenience, with male and female sections, is situated in Parrock Street and includes washing facilities. Male and female attendants are employed at this convenience.

One convenience for females, provided with attendants and washing facilities, is situated on the Gordon Promenade, but is open only during the summer months.

One convenience for males and one for females are situated in Fort Gardens. An attendant is employed at the females' convenience during entertainments in the summer.

Other small public conveniences, 9 for men, 3 for women and 2 for children, are situated in various parts of the Borough. These are without washing facilities or attendants.

Conveniences at 14 licensed premises are also cleansed by Health Department employees in consideration of the fact that they are available for the use of the general public at all times.

Conveniences attached to other licensed premises have also been kept under supervision.

RODENT CONTROL

Under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 it is the duty of the Local Authority to take such steps as may be necessary to secure, as far as practicable, that their district is kept free from rats and mice, and in particular—

- (a) from time to time to carry out such inspections as may be necessary for the purpose aforesaid.
- (b) to destroy rats and mice on land of which they are the occupier and otherwise to keep such land as far as practicable free from rats and mice.
- (c) to enforce the duties of owners and occupiers of land under the following provisions of this part of this Act, and to carry out such operations as are authorised by those provisions.

All infested premises notified to the Health Department or discovered during the course of inspection during the year were dealt with. The cost of disinfestation at business premises by the Council's Rodent Officer is charged to the occupiers, but the work at dwelling houses is carried out free.

The following report summarises the work carried out during the year 1952 :—

		TYPE OF PROPERTY				
		<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>Agri- cultural</i>	<i>All other (including Business and Industrial)</i>	<i>Total</i>
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District		17	11,998	18	1,837	13,870
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a) notification or (b) otherwise ...		(a) 4	158	1	48	211
		(b) 1	22	21	163	207

III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats							Major	2	7	—	2	11
							Minor	1	142	1	19	163
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be serious- ly infested by mice							—	5	—	8	13	
V. Number of infested proper- ties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority							3	154	1	29	187	
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4 :—												
(1) Treatment							—	—	—	—	—	
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)							—	—	—	—	—	
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4							—	—	—	—	—	
VIII. Legal Proceedings							—	—	—	—	—	
IX. Number of “block” con- trol schemes carried out — 18												
Total number of visits							2,996					
Estimated number of rats killed							2,542					

In addition to the above, two maintenance treatments of the sewers for the destruction of rats were carried out, one during the period 26th May to 28th June and the other during the period 3rd November to 29th November. A test treatment was also carried out during May of ten per cent of the sewer manholes in the area previously found to be uninfested.

Rats killed during these treatments are not included in the figures recorded above as the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries do not consider it necessary to record poison takes in sewer maintenance treatments.

SECTION "D."

HOUSING.

Housing is still the great problem in health work. As in previous years the Council have pursued this matter with the utmost vigour. They have built the maximum number of houses allocated by the Ministry.

Each applicant for accommodation receives careful consideration and the Housing Selection Sub-Committee give priority in urgent cases. I am glad to express my gratitude for the way in which they have considered the families I have put before them, especially in regard to Tuberculosis and other illnesses.

The Borough Engineer has kindly supplied the following information :—

Houses completed during 1952—

By Corporation				164
By Private Enterprise				53

217

Flats completed during 1952			...	44
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Houses Built by Private Enterprise during 1952—

Houses					53
Bungalows					6

59

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.....	.....	1160
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	4354
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	.....	.....	Nil
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	.....	.....	Nil
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.....		Nil
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	.....	.....	594

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers		488
---	-------	-----

Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	108
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	33
(b) By occupiers	62
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners or occupiers	13
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished without formal procedure	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

Provision of Dustbins

Under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Local Authority may require either the owner or the occupier of premises to provide a dustbin.

In the past the Council have served notices on owners in all cases, but, during the year 1952, objections to this procedure were raised by local house agents, followed by appeals against notices served on them.

These appeals were decided in favour of the owners and in one case costs of £10. 10s. 0d. were awarded against the Council.

During 1952 the Council considered the service of notices in respect of 105 premises and made the following decisions:

(1) Notices to be served on owners	19
(2) Notices to be served on occupiers	86

Appeals were made by owners against 10 of the notices. These appeals were upheld in five instances, four were withdrawn as the occupiers provided the dustbins and in the other case the Council withdrew the statutory notice.

13 dustbins were supplied by the Council in default of compliance with notices.

Housing Accommodation.

Visits have been made to all premises reported as being overcrowded or as being otherwise unsuitable for the health of the occupants. The following is a summary of the action taken and subsequent results since 1945 :—

	1945 to 1951	1952	Total
1. Reported to Housing Department as—			
(a) Overcrowded	164	17	181
(b) Not overcrowded but otherwise unsuitable	130	21	151
2. Reported to other authorities as—			
(a) Overcrowded	2	1	3
(b) Not overcrowded but otherwise unsuitable	5	2	7
(c) Not overcrowded or otherwise unsuitable	2	1	3
3. Inspected but no action considered necessary	134	20	154
4. Conditions found on re-inspection to have been abated at—			
(a) Overcrowded premises	132	22	154
(b) Premises where conditions were otherwise unsuitable	108	19	127

Included in No. 4 were fifty-five cases where members of the families concerned were suffering from tuberculosis and eight from other illness.

SECTION " E "

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises.

Bye-laws made by the Council under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act' 1938 came into operation on the 10th October, 1950.

These bye-laws were made for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivering of food sold or intended for sale for human consumption, and in connection with the sale or exposure for sale in the open air of food intended for human consumption.

Inspection of food premises is being maintained to ensure compliance with these bye-laws and the provisions of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the following is a summary of the visits made and results of inspections :—

	<i>Number of visits</i>	<i>Number of notices Served. Complied with.</i>	
Bakehouses	67	20	19
Butchers	248	10	10
Bakers and Confectioners	71	5	5
Cooked Meat Shops	29	4	4
Dairies and Milkshops	67	4	4
Dining Rooms and Cafes	234	24	23
Fish Frying Establishments	28	4	3
Fishmongers	103	5	5
Greengrocers	384	10	8
Ice Cream Premises	251	3	3
Meat Depots	90	—	—
Provision Dealers	565	13	18
	<u>2137</u>	<u>102</u>	<u>102</u>

Forty-two premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale, and 18 for the preparation and sale of fried fish.

Milk Supply.

There are no dairy farms in the Borough. Dairies other than dairy farms and milk distributors are registered by local authorities and there are now on the register 4 dairies and 59 distributors.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Two hundred and thirty-five samples of milk were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and the following is an analysis of the results obtained :—

<i>Designation</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>		<i>Results</i>	
Pasteurised	147	Methylene Blue Test	—	Satisfactory 69 Unsatisfactory 6
		Phosphatase Test	—	Satisfactory 72 Unsatisfactory 3
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	59	Methylene Blue Test	—	Satisfactory 33 Unsatisfactory 2
		Phosphatase Test	—	Satisfactory 34 Unsatisfactory 1
Tuberculin Tested	3	Methylene Blue Test	—	Satisfactory 2 Unsatisfactory 1
Sterilised	24	Turbidity Test	—	Satisfactory 24 Unsatisfactory —
Ungraded	2	Methylene Blue Test	—	Satisfactory 2 Unsatisfactory —

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Licences issued under these Regulations were as follows:—

“ Tuberculin Tested ”	Dealer's Licences	.....	3
	Dealer's Supplementary Licences	.....	2
“ Tuberculin Tested ” (Pasteurised)	Dealer's Licences	.....	3
	Dealers' Supplementary Licences	.....	2
“ Pasteurised ”	Pasteuriser's Licences	.....	3
	Dealer's Licences	.....	7
“ Sterilised ”	Dealer's Supplementary Licences	.....	4
	Dealer's Licences	.....	36
	Dealer's Supplementary Licences	.....	4

Ice Cream.

One-Hundred and seven premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ice cream, and 2 for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, both under Heat treatment. Two hundred and fifty-one inspections were made in 1952.

Eighty-six samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:—

	<i>Number of Samples</i>
Grade 1	58
„ 2	14
„ 3	8
„ 4	6
	—
	86
	—

Slaughterhouses.

There is now only one licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough and this is used only occasionally for the slaughter of animals by private keepers under licence from the Ministry of Food. Visits of inspection made during the year numbered 7.

The provisions of the slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, relating to humane slaughtering of animals have been complied with. The number of slaughtermen holding licences at the end of the year was 13.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

Meat Inspection—Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed	—	—	—	—	24
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	24
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	8.3
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—

Unsound Food

The following food was condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

(a) Carcase Meat and Offal—

	Bovine		Pigs		Sheep	
	Meat	Offal	Meat	Offal	Meat	Offal
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Abscesses	—	5	4	—	11	—
Bone taint	196	—	—	—	—	—
Bruised	356	—	62	8	—	—
Flukes	—	36	—	—	—	—
Heated	663	—	—	327	987	31
Putrefaction	34	160	16	438	18	1551
Unsound	185	755	—	66	13	638
	<u>1434</u>	<u>956</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>1029</u>	<u>2220</u>
Totals		Meat	2545	Offal		
			4015			
			<u>6560 lb.</u>			

(b) **Fish (unsound)**

	lb.		lb.
Cod	49	Plaice	7
Dogfish	27	Prawns	43
Kippers	294	Skate	87
Total 507 lb.			

(c) **Tinned Foods (unsound)**

Baby Food	4	Meat	3976
Barley Crystals	2	Meat Offals	108
Beverages	2	Milk	681
Coffee	1	Mincemeat	15
Cream (powdered)	35	Pate de foix	112
Dripping	7	Puddings	1
Fish	125	Soup	108
Fish and meat paste	23	Spaghetti	17
Fruit	2264	Syrup	88
Game and poultry	27	Sausages	102
Jam	123	Tomato juice	14
Lemon curd	1	Vegetables	1519
Marmalade	27		
Total 9382 lb.			

(d) **Miscellaneous—not tinned (unsound)**

	lb.		lb.
Bacon	8	Sausages	23
Chickens	20	Turkeys	24
Rabbits	355		
Total 430 lb.			

Total approximate weights

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lb.
(a) Carcase meat and offal	...	...	2	18	2	8
(b) Fish	...	...		4	2	3
(c) Tinned foods	...	...	4	3	3	2
(d) Miscellaneous	...	...		3	3	10
			7	10	2	23

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

One hundred and forty-two samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and submitted to the Public Analyst. Particulars of the samples and a summary of the results are shown in the following table :—

<i>Samples</i>				<i>Number of</i>		<i>Result of Analyses</i>	
				<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adulterated</i>
Boracic Ointment	...	...	...		I	I	
Brawn	...	...	...	I		I	
Bread	...	...	...		I	I	
Butter	...	...	...	4		4	
Cakes (fancy)	...	...	...		2	2	
Camphorated Oil	...	...	...		I	I	
Castor Oil	...	...	...		I	I	
Cod Liver Oil	...	...	...		I	I	
Cocoa	...	...	...	I		I	
Coffee	...	...	...	I	I	2	
Cheese	...	...	...	I		I	
Doughnuts	...	...	...		2	2	
Dressed Crab	...	...	...		I	I	
Dripping	...	...	...	I		I	
Epsom Salts	...	...	...		I	I	
Fish paste	...	...	...		I	I	
Gin	...	...	...	2		2	
Glauber Salts	...	...	...		I	I	
Glycerine	...	...	...		I	I	
Halibut Oil	...	...	...		I	I	
Ice Cream	...	...	...	I	15	15	I
Ice "Lollies"	...	...	...		2	2	
Jam	...	...	...	I	2	3	
Lard	...	...	...	I		I	
Margarine	...	...	...	I		I	
Meat paste	...	...	...		I	I	
Meat pie	...	...	...		I	I	
Milk	...	...	...	53	2	54	I
Mincemeat	...	...	...	I		I	
Mineral water	...	...	...		5	5	
Olive Oil	...	...	...		I	I	
Peas (tinned)	...	...	...		2	2	
Pressed Beef	...	...	...	I		I	
Rum	...	...	...	2		2	
Sardines	...	...	...		I	I	
Sauce	...	...	...		I	I	
Sausages and sausage meat	...	...	...	12		9	3
Sweet spirits of Nitre	...	...	...		I	I	
Tea	...	...	...	I		I	
Tincture of Iodine	...	...	...		I		I
Tomato soup (tinned)	...	...	...		I		I
Vinegar	...	...	...		2	2	
Whisky	...	...	...	2		2	
Zinc Ointment	...	...	...		I	I	
				87	55	135	7

Particulars of adulterated samples and action taken :—

Pork Sausages Samples Nos. 975, 978 and 979.—These were reported to be slightly deficient in meat. Further samples were taken and found to be genuine.

Tincture of Iodine Sample No. 1036.—Slightly deficient in iodine (2.4% instead of 2.45%). No formal action was taken.

Ice Cream Sample No. 1085.—Deficient in non-fatty milk solids. No action was taken, having regard to the new minimum standards prescribed by the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Amendment) Order 1952.

Milk Sample No. 1103. 21.6% deficient in fat. A letter of caution was sent to the Distributor.

Tinned Tomato Soup Sample No. 1126. The tin content was too high to be satisfactory but did not exceed the accepted amount of 300 parts per million. The vendor voluntarily destroyed his remaining stock of similar tins.

SECTION "F."

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND "OTHER DISEASES."

Infected Diseases.

The following notifiable infectious diseases were recorded :—

Measles	-----	-----	123
Whooping Cough	-----	-----	120
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	-----	-----	77
Non Respiratory			3
Scarlet Fever	-----	-----	29
Pneumonia	-----	-----	24
Erysipelas	-----	-----	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	-----	-----	4
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	-----	-----	1
Non-Paralytic			—
Paratyphoid	-----	-----	1
Malaria	-----	-----	1
Food Poisoning	-----	-----	1
Total	-----	-----	396

A table showing other particulars is given on page 11.

There were no cases of Smallpox or Diphtheria.

Institutional Accommodation for Infectious Diseases.

Patients needing institutional accommodation for treatment or isolation were sent to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford.

The other arrangements include the following :—

- (a) Ophthalmia Neonatorum—Kent Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone.
- (b) Smallpox—The River Hospitals (Long Reach) Dartford.
- (c) Tuberculosis—Bow Arrow Hospital, Dartford, and other hospitals and sanatoria arranged by the Chest Physicians.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This work is under the control of the Kent County Council and the following arrangements are in operation :—

1. Immunisations are carried out at the Doctor's sessions at each Welfare Centre and School Clinic.
2. Immunisations on behalf of the Local Health Authority are carried out by General Practitioners at their surgeries.
3. Notices are sent to every infant at the age of 8 months.
4. The Health Visitors follow up all cases in which there is no record of the injections having been given.

The diphtheria immunisation statistics for the year are as follows :—

During the year 622 children under fifteen years of age were immunised for the first time—590 children under five years and 32 over five years of age.

Thirty-two children under five years and 324 children over five years of age were given re-inforcing injections.

The total number of children resident in the Borough under the age of fifteen years on 31st December, 1952, who had completed a course of immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1938).

	<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>5 and under 15 years.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Number immunised	1,997	5,943	7,940

Smallpox Prevention.

Vaccination.

When the National Health Service Act, 1946, came into operation the Vaccination Acts were repealed and infant vaccination ceased to be compulsory.

Vaccinations carried out during the year were as follows :—

	<i>Under 1 year.</i>	<i>1-4 years.</i>	<i>5-14 years</i>	<i>15 years and over.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Primary Vaccinations	282	187	9	8	486
Re-Vaccinations	—	6	17	83	106

Tuberculosis

Close co-operation has been maintained between the Health Department and the Chest Physicians.

Diagnosis.

The Chest Clinic is provided at the Gravesend and North Kent Hospital where patients are seen every Wednesday at 9 a.m.

Mass Radiography.

The first visit to Gravesend of the Mid Kent Mass Radiography Unit marks a most important advance in preventive medicine.

The Campaign was opened by His Worship the Mayor, Alderman H. Fletcher, J.P., on 14th January, and the unit continued to function until 24th March.

The Gravesend Corporation kindly allowed the unit to operate at the Corporation Bathing Pool and the unit also visited certain schools and industrial premises in the district.

The following summary is given :—

Volunteers—General Public	...	3,832
Schools	...	2,126
Industries	...	8,002

Total 13,960

Active Tuberculosis—36

Inactive Tuberculosis—199

It will be seen that altogether 36 cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered. We are hoping that the unit will be able to visit Gravesend again in 1954.

Statistics—

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

Notification of New Cases.

In 1952, 80 fresh cases were notified. This is an increase over the previous year. It will be seen from the table given below that there is considerable variation in the figures from year to year, and it is fair to say that the 1952 notifications may include some of the patients with early disease who, apart from Mass Radiography, would not have been discovered and notified during 1952.

Year.	<i>Estimated Population of Registrar</i>	<i>Pulmonary.</i>	<i>Non- Pulmonary.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
	<i>General.</i>			
1943	35,260	48	10	58
1944	35,080	34	8	42
1945	36,090	32	4	36
1946	40,340	45	9	54
1947	41,630	75	8	83
1948	42,890	48	7	55
1949	43,250	82	10	92
1950	44,290	65	9	74
1951	44,280	54	1	55
1952	45,260	77	3	80

The sources from which the notifications of tuberculosis were received :—

Chest Physician	...	...	...	...	54
Private Medical Practitioners	...	...	...	...	19
General Hospitals and Institutions	...	...	...	...	7

Age and Sex Distribution.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of our 80 new cases :—

<i>Age Periods.</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female.</i>
0-1	—	—	—	1
1-5	5	2	—	—
5-10	2	1	—	—
10-15	1	3	—	—
15-20	4	4	—	—
20-25	5	6	—	—
25-35	8	9	—	1
35-45	4	3	—	—
45-55	8	4	1	—
55-65	4	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	2	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	42	35	1	2
	—	—	—	—

Occupational Analysis

					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Baker's Roundsman	...	...	...	...	I	—
Book-keeper	...	...	...	...	—	I
Butcher ...	...	...	...	...	I	—
Chauffeur	...	...	...	...	I	—
Civil Servant	...	...	...	...	—	I
Clerk ...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Domestic Worker	...	...	...	...	—	2
Draughtsman	...	...	...	...	I	—
Dredger	...	...	...	...	I	—
Driller	...	...	...	...	I	—
Electrician	...	...	...	...	I	—
Engineer's Assistant	...	...	...	...	I	—
Factory Worker	...	...	...	...	—	3
Gardener	...	...	...	...	I	—
Housewife	...	...	...	...	—	16
Labourer	...	...	...	...	8	—
Lighterman	...	...	...	...	I	—
Miner ...	...	...	...	...	I	—
Nursery Attendant	...	...	...	...	—	I
Office Manager	...	...	...	...	I	—
Photographer	...	...	...	...	—	I
Plumber	...	...	...	...	I	—
Printer's Assistant	...	...	...	...	2	—
Royal Air Force	...	...	...	...	I	—
Sheet Metal Worker	...	...	...	...	I	—
Ship's Manager	...	...	...	...	I	—
Shop Assistant	...	...	...	...	—	2
Steel Erector	...	...	...	...	I	—
Tractor Driver's Mate	...	...	...	...	I	—
Van Driver	...	...	...	...	I	—
Waitresss	...	...	...	...	—	I
Warehouseman	...	...	...	...	I	—
Waterman	...	...	...	...	I	—
Scholar ...	...	...	...	...	3	5
Children under five years	...	...	...	...	5	4
Occupation not known	...	...	...	...	2	—
					—	—
					43	37
					—	—

Deaths and Death Rate.

There were 11 deaths registered from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. This gives a death rate of .26 per 1,000 population for all forms of Tuberculosis.

The following table compares the figures for 1952 with those of previous years, and shows the decline in the death rate for pulmonary tuberculosis since 1947—

Year.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Pop.	Rate per 1,000 Pop.
1943	21	.59	6	.17	.76
1944	15	.42	2	.05	.47
1945	19	.52	4	.11	.63
1946	16	.37	2	.05	.42
1947	24	.57	2	.04	.62
1948	23	.54	2	.05	.58
1949	24	.55	2	.05	.60
1950	14	.32	—	—	.32
1951	11	.25	2	.04	.29
1952	11	.24	1	.02	.26

Tuberculosis Register.

The names of 41 persons were removed from the Register for the following reasons :—

Deaths	...	...	...	10
Left the District	...	...	...	16
Recovered	...	...	...	8
Lost Sight of	...	...	...	1
Refused Public Medical Treatment	...	...	...	4
Diagnosis not Confirmed	...	...	...	2
				41

Four hundred and seventy-two persons remained on the Register at the 31st December, 1952. They consist of the following :—

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary	...	266	164	430
Non-Pulmonary	...	18	24	42
		284	188	472

Admission to Hospital and Sanatorium.

Seventy-six patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis were admitted during the year. Admissions are catching up on arrears and it is gratifying to note that there are now available an adequate number of beds in early cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, i.e., cases with a good outlook for ultimate arrest of the disease. Bow Arrow Hospital at Dartford, previously an Infections Diseases Hospital, is now used exclusively for tuberculosis. There is, however, a long waiting list for patients needing Thoracic Surgery. There is a very great shortage of accommodation for advanced tuberculosis and admission to Hospital presents a most difficult problem.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

A substantial number of children have been vaccinated with B.C.G.

Legal Proceedings.

No action was necessary during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Venereal Diseases.

Dr. Routh, the Medical Officer in charge of the Gravesend Clinic, has kindly supplied the following statistics :—

<i>New Patients—Gravesend.</i>				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Syphilis	...	...	...	—	2	2
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	14	3	17
Non-Venereal	...	...	...	34	6	40
				48	11	59

Total No. of Patients (new) from all areas	...	...	...	224
No. of attendances of Gravesend Patients	...	...	...	1,702
Total No. of attendances—all areas	...	...	...	731

<i>Discharged cured (all districts) :—</i>				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Syphilis	...	...	...	9	8	17
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	31	4	35
Non-Venereal	...	...	...	107	19	126
				147	31	178

Defaulted before Completion of Treatment (Gravesend)

						<i>Males</i>
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	5
						7

Cleanliness, Good Health and Elimination of Verminous Conditions.

The Health Visitors and Sanitary Inspectors have been active in their educative work in regard to cleanliness and freedom from vermin.

Borough Mortuary.

The Mortuary, situated in Swan Yard, provides facilities for six bodies and there is a well equipped post mortem room.

During the year, 72 bodies were received and 70 post-mortem examinations performed.

Coroner's Inquests.

H. M. Coroner has kindly supplied the following information :—

Total number of inquests	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Number of post-mortems without inquests	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Verdicts	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Accidental deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Suicides	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Found drowned	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Other verdicts	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Total number of deaths reported to H.M. Coroner	...	...	...	...	...	...	75

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

	Date taken	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at		<i>B. coli</i> (presumptive)	Remarks
		37°C	22°C		
I. Gravesend & Milton Water Co's Supply					
(a) Leith Park Road Well (Untreated)	17.1.52	4	6	Present in 100 ml.	Probable number of <i>B. coli</i> in 100 ml.=25. Further tests showed "Faecal"
	14.2.52	3	21	do.	<i>B. coli</i> absent in 100 ml. No evidence of recent faecal contamination.
	20.3.52	1	15	Absent in 100 ml.	Probable number of <i>B. coli</i> in 100 ml.=13. "Faecal"
	24.4.52	10	32	Present in 100 ml.=1.	<i>B. coli</i> absent in 100 ml. No evidence of recent faecal contamination.
	22.5.52	0	13	Absent in 100 ml.	Good water
	19.6.52	3	5	do.	do.
	17.7.52	0	14	do	do.
	21.8.52	3	8	do.	do.
	18.9.52	6	9	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination.
	23.10.52	0	7	do	Good water
	20.11.52	0	3	do.	do.
	11.12.52	0	4	Present in 100 ml.=13	No evidence of recent faecal contamination.
(b) Leith Park Road Outgoing main (Treated)	17.1.52	0	0	Absent in 100 ml.	Good water
	14.2.52	0	4	do.	do.
	20.3.52.	0	0	do.	do.
	24.4.52	0	0	do.	do.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

	Date taken	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at		<i>B. coli</i> (presumptive)	Remarks
		37°C	22°C		
I. Gravesend & Milton Water Co's Supply					
(b) Leith Park Road (continued)	22.5.52	0	0	Absent in 100 ml.	Good water
	19.6.52	0	5	do.	do.
	17.7.52	0	0	do.	do.
	21.8.52	7	9	do.	No evidence of recent fa
	18.9.52	0	0	do.	Good water
	23.10.52	0	0	do.	do.
	20.11.52	0	0	do.	do.
	11.12.52	0	0	do.	do.
(c) Domestic supplies (treated)	17.1.52	0	0	Absent in 100 ml.	do.
	14.2.52	0	1	do.	do.
	20.3.52	0	0	do.	do.
	24.4.52	0	0	do.	do.
	22.5.52	0	0	do.	do.
	19.6.52	2	4	do.	do.
	17.7.52	2	3	do.	do.
	21.8.52	1	7	do.	do.
	18.9.52	0	0	do.	do.
	23.10.52	0	0	do.	do.
	20.11.52	3	0	do.	do.
	11.12.52	0	0	do.	do.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DRINKING WATER

No. of organisms
per c.c. capable of
growth on Agar at

37°C 22°C

B. coli
(presumptive)

Remarks

Date taken

2. Higham and Hundred of Hoo Co.s Supply

(a)	Cuxton Pumping Station Well. (Untreated)	23.10.52	0	0	Absent in 100 ml.	Good Water
(b)	Cuxton Meter House					
	Outgoing main (Treated	23.10.52	0	0	do.	do.
(c)	Domestic Supplies	17.1.52	0	2	do.	do.
	(Treated)	14.2.52	1	2	do.	do.
		20.3.52	0	2	do.	do.
		24.4.52	0	42	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination
		22.5.52	3	2	do.	Good water
		19.6.52	0	0	do.	do.
		17.7.52	0	39	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination
		21.8.52	4	52	do.	do.
		18.9.52	0	4	do.	Good water
		23.10.52	0	0	do.	do.
		20.11.52	0	4	do.	do.
		11.12.52	0	0	do.	do.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF DRINKING WATER

	Leith Park Road P.S.		Leith Park Road P.S.		Cuxton P.S.	
	Well	(Untreated)	Outgoing main	(Treated)	Well	(Untreated)
	23.10.52		23.10.52		23.10.52	
Appearance	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
Smell	None	None	None	None	None	None
Chlorine in Chlorides	1.61	1.61	1.61	1.19	1.19	1.19
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.91	0.89	0.89	0.43	0.43	0.43
Ammonia	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	Trace only	Nil	Nil	Trace only	Trace only	Trace only
Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes	Trace only	Trace only	Trace only	Trace only	Trace only	Trace only
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006	0.006
Hardness before boiling (total)	20.4	17.2	17.2	18.0	15.8	15.8
Hardness after boiling (permanent)	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.3	2.4	2.4
Total solid matter	29.12	28.70	28.70	24.08	24.50	24.50
Microscopical examination of deposit	Unimportant	Unimportant	Unimportant	Unimportant	Unimportant	Unimportant
Remarks	Good water	Good water	Good water	Good water	Good water	Good water

Cuxton P.S.
Outgoing main
(Treated)
23.10.52

Cuxton P.S.
Well
(Untreated)
23.10.52

Leith Park Road P.S.
Outgoing main
(Treated)
23.10.52

Leith Park Road P.S.
Well
(Untreated)
23.10.52

Appearance

Smell

Chlorine in Chlorides

Nitrogen in Nitrates

Ammonia

Albuminoid Ammonia

Oxygen absorbed in 15 minutes

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours

Hardness before boiling (total)

Hardness after boiling (permanent)

Total solid matter

Microscopical examination of deposit

Remarks

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

Date taken	Where taken	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at		B. coli (presumptive)		Remarks
		37°C	22°C	Absent in 100 ml.	Good water	
14.5.52	Deep end	0	0		do.	
	Shallow end	0	0	do.	do.	
	Paddling pool	3	0	do.	do.	
22.5.52	Deep end	0	0	do.	do.	
	Shallow end	0	0	do.	do.	
28.5.52	Deep end	3	0	do.	do.	
	Shallow end	4	0	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination	
	Paddling pool	0	2	do.	Good water	
11.6.52	Deep end	0	0	do.	do.	
	Shallow end	3	0	do.	do.	
	Paddling Pool	0	0	do.	do.	
25.6.52	Deep end	15	10	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination.	
	Shallow end	4	0	do.	do.	
	Paddling pool	0	8	do.	Good water	
9.7.52	Deep end	3	4	do.	do.	
	Shallow end	2	3	do.	do.	
	Paddling Pool	4	4	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination	
23.7.52	Deep end	3	4	do.	Good water	
	Shallow end	2	0	do.	do.	
	Paddling pool	0	1	do.	do.	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF BATHING POOL WATER

Date taken	Where taken	No. of organisms per c.c. capable of growth on Agar at		<i>B. coli</i> (presumptive)	Remarks
		37°C	22°C		
6.8.52	Deep end	5	3	Absent in 100 ml.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination
	Shallow end	3	2	do.	Good water
	Paddling pool	2	0	do.	do.
18.8.52	Deep end	1	2	do.	do.
	Shallow end	0	0	do.	do.
	Paddling Pool	1	5	do.	do.
27.8.52	Deep end	5	13	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination
	Shallow end	12	23	do.	do.
	Paddling pool	0	0	do.	Good water
8.9.52	Deep end	0	4	do.	do.
	Shallow end	3	4	do.	do.
	Paddling pool	5	7	do.	No evidence of recent faecal contamination

